This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 4 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor centering in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 20, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 13, 1918.

Let every eye negotiate for itself and trust no agent.—Shakespeare.

WHOLE NO. 1487 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1939. FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 29, NO. 41

FACING *the* FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

Members of the American Federation of Labor can profit from a close study of the proceedings of the C. I. O. convention in San Francisco. They can thereby learn how a labor organization should NOT be run.

Let's take a look right now. First, we see a 20,000-word annual report from the head of the C. I. O. without a single mention—direct or indirect—of labor's most pressing internal problem—peace and unity. We read this report and fail to find anywhere in it an accounting of finances or statement of membership. Naturally, the members of any organization at their annual meeting inevitably ask the question—well, how did we do this year? The members of the C. I. O. are denied a frank answer to this important and pertinent question by John L. Lewis.

Why? What's all the secrecy about? What is the reason for suppressing vital information on membership and finances even from the delegates representing the C. I. O. membership?

Mr. Lewis won't talk. Undoubtedly he has a good reason for not wanting to talk on this subject. But it certainly isn't the reason he gave in his report. He said he was refraining from submitting a financial report "on advice of counsel." It seems some unions of the C. I. O. are being sued for damages. The impression he sought to create was that the C. I. O. thought it wiser to hide its assets in case judgment was found against it and creditors tried to collect.

The Real Answer

This was a clever way of leaving an inference that the C. I. O. has some assets to hide. We beg leave to doubt that. All the information we can gather adds up to the conclusion that the C. I. O. is not only broke, but bankrupt. Isn't it logical to assume that if the C. I. O. finances and membership were in good shape the leader of the C. I. O. would be proud to have the whole world know about it? Then, isn't it just as logical to conclude that the reason Lewis is not boasting about C. I. O. membership and finances must be the fact that he has nothing to boast about?

While we are on this subject of secrecy, we would like to inquire whether everything is all right with the United Mine Workers, holding company for the C. I. O. and Lewis' personal plaything. From time to time memorial this union has submitted to its membership a semi-annual accounting. Here it is well into October, yet the report for the six months ended June 30 has not yet been issued. Is the U. M. W. A. in financial difficulties too? Is the heavy drain on its resources imposed by Lewis to establish a C. I. O. war chest proving too much for the U. M. W.? Is the financial picture of that union growing so dismal that Lewis is afraid to have its members and the public contemplate it? We pause for a reply.

* * *

As we remarked at the outset, Lewis did not mention labor peace in his report to the C. I. O. convention. But in his opening address to that convention, he succeeded in blasting the hopes of the timid and cowering minority in the C. I. O. leadership who still dared to hope for peace despite the dictum of their dictator last summer that peace was "impossible." Comparing himself to a conquering hero, with his usual modesty, Lewis said he spoke with a small voice in the 1934 San Francisco convention of the A. F. of L., that this year he had an army of 4,000,000 (prove it, please) members behind him and—mark this—that five years from now he will come back to San Francisco with ten million dues-paying members.

Let's analyze that statement. Lewis repeated his claim of having 4,000,000 members now, but did NOT say anything about DUES. Five years hence 4,000 members now, but did NOT say anything about DUES. Five years hence mean dues-paying members. But five years from now, apparently, he hopes to have a lot more; and on a dues-paying basis. Five years from now. That means he is planning to continue the C. I. O. for another five years at least. That means he hasn't the slightest intentions of making peace with the A. F. of L. in the next five years. That means that everything he has uttered in memorial address and in the last four years about his desire for peace is a pack of lies. That means that he will spurn the urgent request from the President of the United States to resume peace negotiations immediately.

A Disgusting Spectacle

Yes, indeed, the proceedings of the C. I. O. convention are a highly educational spectacle and a deeply disgusting one. To anyone with a regard for truth, honor and sincerity, to anyone who believes in free, independent and democratic trade unions, the autocratic operation of the C. I. O. is revolting. Sidney Hillman dared to raise his voice in opposition to Lewis. What happens? The number of C. I. O. vice presidents is to be increased from two to six so that the voice and influence of Hillman may be submerged. The Missouri delegation comes into the C. I. O. convention instructed to urge adoption of a resolution condemning the Stalin-Hitler pact and the Communistic and Nazi philosophies. What happens? The Lewis-dominated executive board refuses to let such a resolution be considered and, instead, substitutes a feeble resolution supporting democracy and Americanism.

Why are the C. I. O. leaders afraid of having Communism discussed on the floor of the convention? Whose feelings are they afraid of hurting? Whose status are they protecting? Common sense supplies the answer to those questions.

There is but one more word left to say. The only organizations in this country that have refrained from condemning the Stalin-Hitler pact are Communist-front organizations. Unless the C. I. O. convention dares to defy its own leaders and make such condemnation it must be branded to-day and forever as a Communist-front organization mere obedient to the dictates of the Communist Party line than to the decent and honorable impulses of Americanism.

(Released by the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service)

Senator Taft Reports A. F. of L. Amendments to Labor Relations Act

Tells the Cincinnati Convention Evidence Shows Bias of National Labor Relations Board Against the American Federation of Labor and in Favor of the C. I. O.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, who is a member of the Committee on Education and Labor of the United States Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, attended regularly the meetings of the committees during the hearings on the amendments to the National Labor Relations Act proposed by the American Federation of Labor in the first session of the 76th Congress which adjourned last August, is firmly convinced of the justice of the proposals of the A. F. of L. and is determined to preserve the inherent rights of the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

This was the message which the Senator brought to the convention of the American Federation of Labor here.

He was also firmly convinced that the testimony presented by the American Federation of Labor before the committees indicated a prejudice in favor of the C. I. O. and against the A. F. of L.

Favors New Labor Board

"In my opinion, if the act had been impartially administered by a board anxious to encourage unionization, but discourage unnecessary strife, there would be few proposals to amend today," Senator Taft said.

"The National Labor Relations Board is given such wide power that it could have corrected inequalities in the act itself. But the conditions which exist and the manner of administration has shown defects in the act which should and can be corrected without affecting the basis of the act. I have not yet reached any fixed or definite conclusions as to what the amendments should be, but I can outline my tentative conclusions.

"There should be a new Board, as you recommended. Whether under the present administration this would result in the appointment of persons less prejudiced than the present Board, I do not know. Therefore it is no all-inclusive remedy for the situation.

Company Unions Should Be Outlawed

"I believe that Mr. Green's suggestion of a complete outlawing of company unions, dominated or controlled by the company, together with a wider latitude to the employer to express his opinion at all times, whether unions so long as it does not amount to coercion, is a wise amendment. The C. I. O. has used the provision intended to discourage company unions as a weapon against the A. F. of L. I am satisfied that employers should wish to deal with the more responsible, long-established unions and encourage conference for such unions as against those whose history is one irresponsibility and strife. Even the slightest expression of opinion has been used as an excuse for invalidating contracts with the older union.

Labor Board's Policy Is Discriminatory

"The Chairman of the Board himself told us that if an employer stated to his employees that the organizers for the C. I. O. were Communists, even though they were Communists, it would amount to a violation of the act, which would invalidate an election if those employees voted, for a more American labor union. Such a policy not only discriminates against the older unions, but violates the employer's right of speech. How any employer's opinion can result in coercion of a work-

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LEGION HEAD URGES BAN ON COMMUNISM

Commander Kelly Tells A. F. of L. Convention There Is No Place for Foreign Ideologies in America.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—A more complete mobilization of progressive forces against the inroads of communism was urged by Raymond J. Kelly, National Commander of the American Legion, in an address before the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor.

He also stressed the importance of harmonious relations between working men and women and their employers as essential to American prosperity.

"Now, more than at any time in our history as a republic, it seems to me that peace should prevail between the employer and the employe in this country," he said.

"Industrial peace at home, gained by just settlements of controversial issues between labor and capital, can aid immeasurably in convincing other nations that the time is not ripe on their part to take advantage of what they might believe to be a strife-torn America.

Communists Prevent Industrial Peace

"Events of the past six years in this country have brought to the nation's consciousness, as never before, the fundamental truth to the very foundations of our country from what has been the lack of understanding of the fundamental problems of employer and employe.

"Achievement of a permanent and lasting industrial peace has been rendered almost impossible by the efforts of Communist-inspired illegal forces in control of labor movement in this country.

"The disclosures before the Dies committee this Autumn definitely made known such a situation, of which many serious-minded American citizens have been cognizant for several years.

Alien Doctrines Opposed

"May I compliment the American Federation of Labor for its unceasing efforts in combating the agents of alien ideologies who have attempted to bore into your organization. These efforts attest to the fact that you have successful to a high degree in keeping the Federation a repository for pure Americanism. The American Legion salutes you.

"Those who would implant foreign revolutionary doctrines in the ranks of honest and law-abiding workingmen must be trampled until they can never again rise.

"The pursuit of this policy on the part of the labor movement of America, and these professional agitators is an all-important element in the defense program of the national defense for this country.

National Defense Requires Labor Support

"The American Legion says, yes, by all means, develop the armed forces of the Nation to a maximum of strength but remember that this is a legitimate peace-time establishment.

"But we also appreciate that without the united backing of those who labor in our industries, the outward forms of our defensive structures will be but a hollow shell.

"Sabotage and mallingering from within can cause our collapse more quickly than any potential invasion from across either the Atlantic or the Pacific.

"Of even greater importance than the curbing of these subversives who have attacked your organization as well as our own is for us to see to it that the grounds they have stressed made in our educational and religious institutions are checkmated.

"Only through the enlightened public opinion alone can defeat these propagandizing agencies."

ANTI-PICKETING LAWS FLAYED BY A. F. OF L.

Cincinnati Convention Takes Aggressive Action to Prevent Workers From Being Deprived of Their Rights by Reactionary State Legislatures.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here urged that the forces of the organized labor movement be mobilized to prevent the spread of subversive State legislation designed to nullify the rights of unions to picket and boycott concerns that are hostile to the trade union movement.

In response an anti-picketing statute was passed by a popular referendum. Through a suit brought by the American Federation of Labor and the Oregon State Federation of Labor the constitutionality of the Oregon law was upheld by the courts.

Many Restrictions on Picketing

In Idaho the State legislature passed an anti-picketing bill, but

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A. F. of L. Secretary-Treasurer Gives Up Office After Forty Years of Service

FRANK MORRISON was elected Secretary of the American Federation of Labor by the 1896 A. F. of L. convention. He was elected Secretary-Treasurer by the 1935 convention following the resignation of the late Secretary and Treasurer Frank Morrison, and was re-elected by the 1936, 1937 and 1938 conventions. At the 1939 convention, in Cincinnati, Ohio, he declined to be a candidate for re-election. When Mr. Morrison became Secretary of the American Federation of Labor it had a paid-up membership of 264,825. When he made his last annual report, covering the fiscal year ending August 31, 1939, the paid-up membership totaled 4,006,354.

Morrison Elected Secretary Emeritus Of the American Federation of Labor

Cincinnati Convention Regrets His Retirement As Secretary-Treasurer and Plans a Testimonial of Appreciation for His Forty Years of Service As An A. F. of L. Official.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio—Accepting with deep regret the determination of Frank Morrison, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, to retire on December 31, after serving the Federation as an official continuously since 1896, the annual convention of the A. F. of L. adopted a resolution expressing appreciation for his lifetime of devotion to the interests of the workers and elected him to the office of Secretary Emeritus of the American Federation of Labor.

The text of the resolution, offered by Matthew Woll, third vice president of the American Federation of Labor, follows:

"It is with profound regret we learn of the unalterable determination of our honored and respected Secretary-Treasurer, Frank Morrison, to retire from active service and no longer to seek continuance in the office and undertake the duties and responsibilities he has so ably and successfully filled during the many years with credit to himself and honor to the American Federation of Labor.

"In view of his long, uninterrupted and invaluable services to our cause and organization, as an expression of our ever enduring appreciation of the contributions made by him to labor in general and to the American Federation of Labor in particular and as an indication of our desire to manifest in adequate and fitting manner not only our high regard for his sterling qualities but as an expression of our sincere regard for his future welfare and well being, be it

"RESOLVED, That the Executive Council be authorized and directed to have prepared and engrossed in suitable manner resolutions setting forth our everlasting appreciation for long and invaluable services rendered by Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison, to be presented to him under circumstances worthy of and in keeping with that spirit of fraternity, friendship and good will that prompts these expressions, and be it likewise

"RESOLVED, That we hereby do elect Frank Morrison Secretary Emeritus of the American Federation of Labor to become effective immediately upon termination of his present period of office, and that as a recurrent compensation he shall be entitled to and will receive the sum of $6,000 annually, payable in such manner as will best suit his convenience and requirements."

A.F.L. Appeals Injunction Stopping Beer Drivers Transfer to Teamsters

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Counsel for the American Federation of Labor carried to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia the injunction issued by Justice T. Alan Goldsborough of the United States District Court of the District of Columbia restraining officials of the American Federation of Labor and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America from enforcing the decision of the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor relative to the jurisdictional dispute between the Teamsters Brotherhood and the International Union of the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America. The convention decided that "Teamsters and Chauffeurs in the brewery industry properly belong in and come under the jurisdiction of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs."

One paragraph of Justice Goldsborough's injunction read as follows:

"Now therefore, it is the judgment of the Court that a perpetual injunction should issue against the said defendants, and the said defendants Green, Morrison, Coefield, Wharton, Woll, Bates, Gainor, Brown and Bugniazet, officers, members and representatives of the American Federation of Labor, and the American Federation of Labor, in any form in any way or manner whatsoever carrying out or seeking to carry out and enforce the action of the 1933 Convention of the American Federation of Labor, above referred to, purporting to transfer jurisdiction of beer drivers from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, and the said defendants Tobin, Hughes, Gillespie, O'Rourke, and Tobin (Fred), officers, members and representatives of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, are hereby permanently enjoined and restrained from committing the following acts:

"1. The defendants Green, Morrison, Coefield, Wharton, Woll, Bates, Gainor, Brown and Bugniazet, as officers, members and representatives of the American Federation of Labor, and the American Federation of Labor, in any form in any way or manner whatsoever carrying out or seeking to carry out and enforce the action of the 1933 Convention of the American Federation of Labor, above referred to, purporting to transfer jurisdiction of beer drivers from the

Brewery Workers Union (plaintiff), British Teamsters Union (defendant). In particular, the said defendants named in this sub-paragraph are permanently enjoined and restrained from notifying any employers of beer drivers, general labor bodies, state federations of labor, or other interested parties, of its said action in transferring jurisdiction of beer drivers from plaintiff Brewery Workers Union to the defendant Teamsters Union."

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Green Is Re-Elected A. F. of L. President For Fifteenth Time

Meany Is Chosen Secretary-Treasurer to Succeed Morrison, Who Declined Re-Election; Hutcheson Succeeds Vice-President Duffy, Who Also Declined Re-Election.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio—The delegates to the 59th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor re-elected all officers except Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison and First Vice-President Frank Duffy, both of whom declined re-election.

To succeed Mr. Morrison, secretary of the A. F. of L. from 1896 to 1936, and secretary-treasurer since 1936, the convention chose George Meany, president of the New York State Federation of Labor and a member of Local 463, New York City, of the United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada.

William L. Hutcheson, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, was nominated by Mr. Duffy for vice-president and was elected without opposition. The rest of the vice-presidents were all re-elected by unanimous vote.

In addition to President Green and Secretary-Treasurer-Elect Meany, the Executive Council for the ensuing year consists of the following persons:

T. A. Rickert, president, United Garment Workers of America; Matthew Woll, vice-president, International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America; John Coefield, president, United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada; Arthur O. Wharton, president, International Association of Machinists; Joseph N. Weber, president, American Federation of Musicians; G. M. Bugniazet, secretary, International Brotherhood Electrical Workers of America; George M. Harrison, president, Brotherhood of Railway Clerks; Daniel J. Tobin, president, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America; Harry C. Bates, president, Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers International Union of America; Edward J. Gainor, president, International Association of Street Railway Employes of America; Felix H. Knight, president, Brotherhood Railway Carmen of America; George E. Browne, president, International Alliance of Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada; Edward Flore, president, Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America; William L. Hutcheson, president, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

The delegates voted to hold the 1940 convention of the Federation in New Orleans.

A. F. of L. Reaffirms Its Demand For Labor Relations Act Changes

Cincinnati Convention Also Urges That Present Three-man National Labor Relations Board Be Abolished and a New Five-man Board Set Up to Administer the Labor Relations Act.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor reaffirmed its demand for major amendments to the National Labor Relations Board instead of the present three-man board.

The action of the convention was taken following consideration of the report by the Executive Council which contained a statement regarding the Labor Relations Act and the Labor Relations Board made by the A. F. of L. Executive Council in their report.

Matthew F. Frey, President of the Metal Trades Department of the A. F. of L. and Secretary of the Resolutions Committee, in favoring the report on the National Labor Relations Act, which was later adopted by an overwhelming vote, explained the Act which ninety per cent of the Labor Relations Board and its various advisers, trial examiners, counsel and other employes were either Communists or influenced by the Communist party.

In affirming the necessity for the amendments to the Labor Relations Act proposed by the A. F. of L., the report said:

"The ominous aspect which confronts us is the fact that the American Federation of Labor was the original sponsor of the National Labor Relations Act. The basic principles of the National Labor Relations Act, guaranteeing to workers the rights of self-organization, self-determination, free-choice of choice in designating representatives and imposing on employers the duty to bargain collectively with representatives of workers are sound. The American Federation of Labor will support these principles when all labor is at its command. It will defend these basic principles of the Act from attack by any forces antagonistic to them.

Workers' Rights Destroyed; A. F. of L. Unions Menaced

"Because of a perverted construction of provisions in the Act and an improper administration of it by the board, the inherent rights reserved to have been weakened and in many instances destroyed. Because of ruling the Supreme Court of the United States, had held that the Board was in error and unjustified in its efforts to vacate these agreements.

"It was proved that in instances where the American Federation of Labor desired to have subpoenaes issued to secure the presence of witnesses, that the National Labor Relations Board has unreasonably delayed issuing them.

"It was proved that in numerous cases the Board had so prepared the ballots for election to determine the unit for representation, that American Federation of Labor unions were barred.

"It was proved that in instances the National Labor Relations Board had refused to permit American Federation of Labor unions to be parties to cases coming before it.

"It was proved that a number of examiners had shown themselves biased and wholly incompetent and unfit to serve in that capacity.

"It was shown that in many cases American Federation of Labor unions had dealt with employers, including in a prejudiced manner, the proof being the decisions which had been handed down by the Circuit Courts of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court itself.

Amended Board Rules and Court Decisions Do Not Lessen Need For Amendments

"Even the Board itself has since amended its rules in such a way as to meet some of the demands of the American Federation of Labor. The

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A. F. L. Forms 166 New Locals Among Miscellaneous Groups of Workers

Eight Thousand Working Men and Women Included in the New Unions; International Unions are Also Assisted in Their Organization Work.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The large number of working men and women employed in a number of miscellaneous industries received improved economic conditions during the past year through the activities of the American Federation of Labor in organizing them into A. F. of L. unions. This was strikingly revealed by the report of the A. F. of L. Executive Council to the annual convention of the Federation, in session here, describing the achievements among these workers.

In addition, the A. F. of L. rendered valuable services to a large number of national and international unions.

In an account of their work in these fields the Executive Council said:

"We have made remarkable progress in organizing the workers in the miscellaneous groups. We have chartered over 166 locals from July 1, 1938, to July 28, 1939, organizing approximately 8,000 workers in the miscellaneous field, that is, brush workers; bowling alley workers; gypsum mill workers, organ makers, refrigerator workers, warehousemen, optical workers during company employes, log haulers, sugar refinery workers, green house workers, fishery employes, newsboys employes, (varied) fertilizer workers, colored freight handlers, and others too varied to be mentioned at this time.

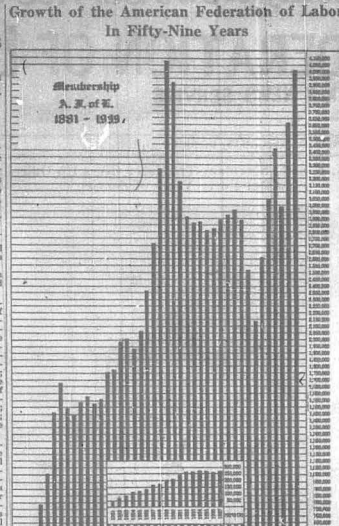
"The growth of organization in this field is certain to be most fruitful during the coming year because many of these miscellaneous groups have a large potential membership among the unorganized.

"In many of these industries there are a large number of unorganized workers. The American Federation of Labor organizing staff has given a great deal of assistance to international unions in cases before mediation, conciliation, arbitration boards in various States and in National Labor Relations Board cases, in many instances assisting international unions in conferences with employers as well as during strikes.

"The international unions to which special assistance has been extended are the following:

"The Laundry Workers International Union; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes; United Leather Workers International Union; International Glove Workers' Union of America; International Metal Engravers' Union; International Ladies Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Workers Union; United Brick and Clay Workers; The Commercial Telegraphers Union of North America; Secretary Employes International Union of North America; United Textile Workers of America; International Union Progressive Mine Workers of America.

"The officers and members of national and international unions, State federations of labor and city central labor unions have rendered most valuable assistance in all of this organizing work. In addition, the organizers of the American Federation of Labor have endeavored in every way possible to see that the affiliated unions were protected in their jurisdictional rights under the constitution of the American Federation of Labor."



This Chart revealing at a glance the total membership of the organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor for each year since 1881 up to and including 1939—fifty-nine years—was exhibited by Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison submitted to the Fifty-ninth Annual Convention of the Federation, which opened at Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 2, 1939.

DISCRETIONARY POWER OF AFL HEAD NARROWED

Convention Amends Constitution to Outline Precise Practice to Be Followed in Disciplining State Federations, City Central Labor Unions, Local and Federal Labor Unions.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor completed its first week here by modifying the power vested in the President of the A. F. of L. to discipline State federations, city central bodies, all directly affiliated local trade and federal labor unions.

Section 6 of Article 6 of the A. F. of L. Constitution declares that the President shall be authorized and empowered to discipline State Federations of Labor, City Central Labor Unions, and Local and Federal Labor Unions, including authority to suspend and/or to suspend and/or revoke their charter subject first to an appeal to the Executive Council and thereafter to the next regular convention immediately following. * * *

Amendment Adopted

Judge Joseph F. Padway, general counsel of the American Federation of Labor, recommended that the provision of Section 6 relative to disciplinary action be amended so as to conform to statute law. In conformity with Judge Padway's recommendation the convention Committee on laws, of which Daniel J. Tobin is chairman, recommended that Section 6 of Article 6 be amended by the addition of the following clause:

"Disciplinary action by the President shall consist of 'emergency action' and 'trial.' Emergency action shall be taken when in the opinion of the President it is necessary to prevent a violation of the American Federation of Labor, or of any affiliate mentioned in this section, or of any officer or members thereof, and for the purpose of preserving the status quo. Emergency action shall be effective only for 45 days unless within such 45 days written charges be caused to be served on the affiliate involved, or on the officers or members involved, if they are individually charged. If such charges are served then the Emergency action shall stand until a trial is had before the President or a representative designated by him to hear them. Such trial shall commence within 45 days after the charges have been served. If the trial is before a representative designated by the President he shall report his findings orally or in writing to the President who shall within 15 days render a decision in the matter. Such decision shall consist of an acquittal of the charges if found untrue or that they, or part of them, are sustained, whereupon the President shall take such disciplinary action as hereinbefore authorized. Such action shall constitute the President's decision, but shall be subject to change or modification by him before an appeal to the Executive Council is acted upon. An appeal to the Executive Council shall be in writing and mailed to the Secretary of the American Federation of Labor within 15 days after the President has rendered his decision. Pending an appeal, the decision of the President shall remain in full force and effect."

WAREHOUSE WORKERS SEEK INTERNATIONAL CHARTER

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Eight warehouse unions, one grocery union, one federal labor union, one grocery employees union, one merchandise union, and one hardware union, all directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, will meet with the Executive Council of the Federation following the adjournment of the Federation's annual convention here to consider the advisability of an international charter for warehouse employees.

The telegram requesting that the Executive Council consider the application for the charter was sent to the convention, which referred it to the Executive Council.

COMMERCIAL WIRE MEN ASSISTED BY A. F. OF L.

Union Wins Western Union Election in Nation's Capital.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Despite hostile acts of the National Labor Relations Board, the Commercial Telegraphers Union of America, aided by the American Federation of Labor, has made substantial progress during the past year.

Evidence of this was presented by the A. F. of L. Executive Council in their report to the annual convention of the Federation now in session here. The Council said:

"The American Federation of Labor has been assisting the Commercial Telegraphers Union of North America in the organization of communication workers.

"We assigned organizers to assist this international union in organizing work in Washington, D. C., New York and Chicago.

"We are pleased to report that we won a very important National Labor Relations Board election in Washington, D. C., which has given impetus to the workers employed by the Western Union Telegraph Co. to organize throughout the country.

"We are now in the process of negotiating an agreement with the Western Union Telegraph Co. for the District of Columbia.

"In spite of great difficulties and the insidious activities of the National Labor Relations Board toward this organization in a number of instances substantial gains have been made and organization activities carried on in the marine and aviation division of communication.

"With the assistance of the entire trade union movement we look forward that the present vigorous campaign that is being carried on in this field will produce good results."

OVER 100 A. F. L. UNIONS AMONG CEMENT WORKERS

Cincinnati, Ohio.—A striking illustration of the achievements of the American Federation of Labor in organizing workers in the mass, through A. F. of L. unions as revealed by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to their report to the Federation's annual convention here, was the campaign to organize cement workers. The report said:

"The fifty-fourth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, which was held in San Francisco, California, in October, 1934, directed the Executive Council to launch and carry forward a special organizing campaign among employes in the cement manufacturing plants.

"The records show that the organizers attached to the American Federation of Labor reported to the leaders of the Executive Council. This has resulted in the affiliation of over 25 local unions with a national council.

"It is significant to note that over 25 local unions with charters organized from July 5, 1938, up to and including July 25, 1939.

"All these unions function through the National Council of Cement Workers, which council held its constitutional convention September 11, 1939, for the purpose of receiving an international charter from the American Federation of Labor.

"Negotiations have been negotiated between these federal labor unions of cement workers and their employers in practically every plant that has been organized throughout the country.

"These workers have been able to renew a number of their contracts calling for better conditions.

"It is significant to note also that these conditions were brought about without resort to strike."

Furniture Workers Jurisdiction Study

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor referred to the A. F. of L. Executive Council a resolution introduced by Delegate Henry Ohl, Jr., of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor, directing the Council "to make a study and give careful consideration to the problems of the workers in the furniture industry and endeavor to work out a plan to eliminate conflicting jurisdiction at various unions with a view to effect a thorough organization of the workers in this industry that better and more uniformed conditions may be established."

ANTI-ALIEN LAWS DANGER VISIONED BY THE A. F. OF L.

Convention Warns Against "Inroads on Individual Liberties Under the Guise of Preferential Treatment of Citizens."

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The dangers inherent in much of the anti-alien legislation recently enacted by various State legislatures was considered by the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, in session here, after reviewing the situation as reported by the A. F. of L. Executive Council the convention declared:

"Legislation relating to aliens should be carefully watched, in order to guard against needless inroads on individual liberties under the guise of preferential treatment of citizens."

The report of the Executive Council directed attention to the Illinois statute and the Pennsylvania statute dealing with aliens. In Illinois a petition of bills was passed, the Council said, "limiting the right to practice in certain license occupations to citizens of persons who have taken the first steps towards becoming citizens."

In discussing the Pennsylvania anti-alien statute, the Council declared:

"In Pennsylvania a law was passed requiring aliens resident in the State, over the age of eighteen, to register annually with the Department of State and Industry. This requirement not only imposes an unjustified burden on the labor department, and invades a field of law which is reserved to the Federal Government, but also marks a dangerous departure from established principles of individual liberty. It is considered ineffective as a means of detecting aliens illegally in the country (for obviously such will not abother to register); it opens up a fertile field for blackmail, racketeering and extortion against ignorant; and it is a first step towards regimentation of the Fascist and Nazi pattern. From police surveillance of the citizen it is a short step—how indeed can citizens prove that they are not among the class required to carry registration cards—to requiring themselves producing similar identification." A registration law enacted by states to adopt singly, and if it should be allowed to stand would seriously inconvenience the free mobility of persons between states. Legislation relating to aliens should be carefully watched, in order to guard against general inroads on individual liberties under the guise of preferential treatment of citizens."

UNIFIED STATE LABOR DEPARTMENTS FAVORED

American Federation of Labor Urges That Labor Laws Be Administered By Bureaus Established Primarily to Benefit Workers.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, in session here, took the definite position that the administration of State labor laws should be placed in State departments of labor instead of in other State bureaus not set up primarily for the benefit of working men and women.

The convention had before it the report of the A. F. of L. Executive Council on "State Labor Legislation." Pointing out that the output of labor laws enacted by the forty-eight State legislatures that met this year "was meager if not downright reactionary," the Council made the following statement:

"Among the favorable results achieved in spite of the growing opposition to progressive legislation, are to be counted the creation of separate unified labor departments, with rule-making power in Alabama and in the Territory of Hawaii. In the first two laws lodge rule-making power in regard to safety and health in the labor department, where it belongs. Idaho and Montana, give similar authorization to the Department of Public Welfare and the State Board of Health, respectively, where experience in other States indicates, it will probably lie dormant and inactive so far as occupational and industrial hazards are concerned.

"Two State labor commissioners—Indiana and New Hampshire—were given power to take wage claim assignments for collection, bringing the number of State Departments that can effectively assist wage-earners in collecting their back wages to 15.

"Four new States adopted apprenticeship laws, making 30 States that empower the State department of labor to promote and supervise such programs; and Massachusetts joined in cooperation with local labor and employer organizations."

In acting on the Council's report the convention recommended "that in all States where this legislature may come up for enactment that the subject matter be placed in the hands of the State Department of Labor, where such departments exist, instead of the Department of Public Welfare, or the State Board of Health."

A. F. OF L. CONVENTION HITS ANTI-LABOR LAWS

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The delegates to the American Federation of Labor adopted with enthusiasm the recommendation of the Committee on State Organizations that all affiliated units cooperate to prevent the enactment of reactionary State laws affecting labor.

The subject was brought to the attention of the convention by the report of the Executive Council that "a repetition of the landslide of good labor laws enacted in 1937 was perhaps not to be expected in every long legislative year, but the output of the 44 legislatures that met this year was meager if not downright reactionary."

To meet this emergency the convention urged "that all organizations cooperate with the State Federations of Labor in their continued effort to combat all reactionary legislation having for its object the restriction of the normal functions of trade unions, and press for the enactment of remedial and protective legislation for all wage earners."

A. F. OF L. COUNCIL LAUDS LABOR PRESS

Publicity Bureau Has Presented A. F. of L. Policies to the Public; Labor Papers Have Punctured C. I. O. Falsehoods Regarding the A. F. of L.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—A strong commendation of labor newspapers and periodicals which support the principles of the American Federation of Labor is contained with its publicity program featured the report of the Executive Council of the Federation to the annual A. F. of L. convention here. The Council said:

"The Publicity and American Federation of Labor established a new publicity bureau under the direction of Phillip Murray, a former Washington newspaper correspondent. This bureau has functioned effectively, giving a period of great stress when public support of the policies of the American Federation of Labor were of vital importance.

"As a result of the educational campaign conducted through the media of the daily newspapers, magazines and the radio, the American public today has a better understanding of the democratic principles, structure and procedure of the American Federation of Labor than ever before. Push conducted by the Institute of Public Relation, a nationally accredited independent organization, show that the vast majority of the American people prefer the American Federation of Labor to the C. I. O. and the policies of the A. F. of L. over those of the C. I. O.

"The labor press, which supports the philosophy and policies of the American Federation of Labor, has been of inestimable value in counteracting efforts of the C. I. O. to undermine the loyalty of American Federation of Labor members.

"The dual, secession movement flooded the country with false propaganda in an attempt to create the impression that the membership of the A. F. of L. had split on important policies, such as the need for amending the National Labor Relations Act. This deceptive propaganda has been offset in large measure by publication of the truth in the labor press.

"Because the labor press refused to be bought, the C. I. O. shifted to a new tack and through one of its organizations, the American Newspaper Guild, sought to capture and control these papers by offering to co-operate with Federation. Green promptly issued a warning against this underhand campaign and the guild offer was spiked.

"The Executive Council deeply appreciates the loyal support which the labor press and pledges to it in return the full backing of the officers and affiliated unions of the American Federation of Labor and all its constituent organizations."

CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT ADOPTION RECOMMENDED

A. F. of L. Urges Renewed Campaign by Organized Labor to Secure Ratification in Twenty Negative States.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Confronted with the fact that only twenty-eight States have ratified the proposed Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution, the annual convention by thirty-six States necessary to make the proposal a part of our Federal Law, the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, in session here, declared that the Federation resume its campaign in the negative States to secure the ratification by the additional States necessary to bring the affirmative vote up to the required thirty-six.

Pointing out that during the past year Massachusetts and Tennessee refused to ratify the amendment, the Executive Council said:

"The Massachusetts House of Representatives defeated ratification by as many years refused to ratify the amendment by a vote of 196 to 46 to 18. It seems remarkable that Massachusetts, which has always adhered to the best in labor and human principles, has failed to ratify an amendment that would protect children being exploited in industry."

Turning to the question of whether the Congress had power constitutionally to approve the amendment has the right to reconsider its action and ratify it after a period of years, the lapse of time since Congress submitted the amendment to the several States, the Executive Council has considered now, the Executive Council reported:

"The fact that the Supreme Court decided against the questions raised by Kansas in the case brought on this question," and expressed "the opinion that this action should have a beneficial and stimulating effect on the workers in the States who have not ratified the Child Labor Amendment," adding:

"We urge the State Federations in those States as well as all organized workers cooperating with their State Federations of Labor to seek the support of all organizations and citizens in appealing to their legislatures for the immediate ratification of the Child Labor Amendment so that the amendment will become part of the Constitution of the United States."

A. F. of L. Indorses 45 Union Labels and 11 Union Shop Cards

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The large number of labels, shop cards and other union labels and similar devices to show that articles are made and services rendered by union members is revealed in the annual report of Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, to the annual convention of the Federation here. The report said:

"There are now 45 labels and 11 cards issued and used by the following organizations which have been indorsed by the American Federation of Labor:

Organizations Using Labels

"American Federation of Labor; Bakers and Confectioners; Bill Posters and Billers; Bottlemakers; Blacksmiths; "Bookbinders; Boot and Shoe Workers; Brewery Workmen; Brick and Clay Workers; Broommakers; Carpenters and Joiners; Brotherhood; Carvers, Wood; Cigarmakers; Coopers; Electrical Workers; Garment Workers, United; Glass Bottle Blowers; Glove Workers; Hatters and Millinery Workers; Horseshoers; Jewelry Workers; Lathers; Laundry Workers; Leather Workers; Machinists; Marble Workers; Metal Polishers; Metal Workers, Sheet; Metal Workers, Stove; Molders; Painters; Paperhangers; *Photo-Engravers; Plate Printers; Potters; Powder Workers; *Pressmen, Printing; Sheep Shearers; *Stereotypers and Electrotypers; Stove Mounters; Teamsters; Tobacco Workers; Typographical; Upholsterers; United Wall Paper Crafts, and Weavers.

*Those five unions own and control jointly what is known as the Allied Printing Trades label.

Organizations Using Cards, Buttons, Emblems

"Actors; Barbers; Clerks, Retail; Draftsmen, Technical Engineers, Architects; Engineers, Operating; Firemen, Stationary; Hotel and Restaurant Employees; Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen; Musicians; Stage Employes, Theatrical, and Teamsters.

"The label of the American Federation of Labor is used by directly affiliated local unions on products manufactured under union agreements where the work does not come under the jurisdiction of any affiliated national or international union."

A.F.L Convention Refuses to Seat Delegates of Typographical Union

Vote Is Unanimous Following Evidence That the I. T. U. Had Refused for Two Years to Pay Assessments Legally Levied By the American Federation of Labor.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor was unanimously adopted the report of the Committee on Credentials recommending that the delegates from the International Typographical Union be denied seats in the convention.

Pointing out that "the financial records kept by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison shows that the International Typographical Union has failed to pay the one cent per member assessment which was levied by the last preceding Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor which was held in Denver, Colorado, and the Forty-eighth Annual Convention which was held at Houston, Texas, the Credentials Committee called the provision of the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor which states that "delegates shall not be entitled to a seat in the regular or special conventions unless the dues and assessments of their organization as provided for in Article I, Section 1, and the assessments as provided for in Article XII, Sections 1 and 2, have been paid to the Secretary-Treasurer by the ceding the regular or special convention."

Section 1 of Article X referred to in the above section provides that the Secretary of the Federation shall be derived from a per capita tax to be paid upon the full paid-up membership of the affiliated bodies," and that "revenue may also be derived from assessments when and as ordered by a majority vote of a regular or special convention."

During the discussion on the committee's report it was pointed out that the American Federation of Labor contributed in excess of $55,000.00 to assist the typographical union in its fight for the eight-hour day.

The question arose as to whether the refusal to seat the International Typographical Union delegates suspended that union from membership in the American Federation of Labor. Ty answer this question President Green read the following provision of the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor:

"Any organization affiliated with this Federation not paying its per capita tax on or before the 15th of each month, and assessments or assessments when due and payable, shall be notified of the fact by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation, and if at the end of three months it is still in arrears it shall become suspended from membership by the Federation, and can be reinstated only by the action of the convention when such arrearages are paid in full, as provided in Section 2 of this Article."

Iglesias Will Make Survey of Labor Movement in Latin-American Nations

Mobilizing More Labor Unions South of the Rio Grande in the Pan-American Federation of Labor is Main Object of Detour.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, announced that important sessions of the Executive Council of the Pan-American Federation of Labor have been held in Cincinnati during the A. F. of L. convention. Further sessions will be held in Washington next week.

Rapid extension of the Pan-American Federation of Labor's strength was the principal subject under consideration. Plans also were discussed for a general meeting of the Pan American Federation Executive Committee in Mexico City late this year, at which it is hoped it may be possible to determine the date of the next convention.

In accordance with previous recommendations, it was announced that final plans had been made for the tour of all Latin American nations by Santiago Iglesias, Spanish Language Secretary of the Pan-American Federation of Labor and leader of the labor movement of Puerto Rico.

"Secretary Iglesias expects to leave for Mexico the first course of the to be visited, within two weeks after adjournment here," said President Green. "After that he will proceed South, visiting the other nations and conferring with their bona fide labor movements. We have asked him to complete his tour in time to report to the executive committee at its next meeting."

Participating in the sessions here, in addition to President Green and Secretary Iglesias, were Luis N. Morones, vice president, and Matthew Woll, English Language Secretary.

Mr. Morones, leader of the CROM in Mexico, the latest fide labor movement of that country, left Cincinnati Tuesday, enroute back to Mexico to attend conferences for Secretary Iglesias.

United Automobile Workers Are Scheduled For Big Progress Under A. F. of L. Banner

Executive Council Is Cooperating Fully With Union Officials to Build Up the Reaffiliated International.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

In their report to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor at Cincinnati, Ohio, the Executive Council of the Federation included the important details of the reaffiliation of the United Automobile Workers of America with the A. F. of L.

Following a division among the automobile manufacturing industry employees the Council said the union group represented by President Homer Martin had made application for reaffiliation with the A. F. of L. last April.

After an inquiry into the situation made by President Green of the American Federation of Labor, the United Automobile Workers, represented by President Martin, held a convention in Detroit with three hundred and seventy-three delegates in attendance. The convention directed the Executive Board of the United Automobile Workers to submit the question of reaffiliation with the A. F. of L. to a referendum vote of the union members.

President Martin and Secretary-Treasurer Jerry Aldred of the United Automobile Workers Union reported that reaffiliation had carried and that 4ts were cast in favor of the affiliation and 66,768 against affiliation. Following this favorable vote the A. F. of L. charter was restored to the United Automobile Workers as represented by President Martin and his associates on June 8, 1939.

In reporting on the reaffiliation, the Executive Council said:

"Thus the United Automobile Workers of America, as represented by President Homer Martin and his associates, withdrew from the C. I. O. and returned to the American Federation of Labor.

"This was in conformity with the repeated declarations made by the American Federation of Labor that automobile workers had withdrawn the American Federation of Labor would be accorded a welcome back home, so that the unity and solidarity could be established within the organized labor movement.

"We are cooperating fully with President Martin and his associates in the efforts they are putting forth to rebuild and reestablish the International Union United Automobile Workers of America as recognized by the American Federation of Labor. We will continue to do so, and will extend to the officers and members of this organization all assistance and help possible."

A. F. of L. Opposes Control of Civilian Activities by Army and Navy Officers

Cincinnati Convention Condemns Domination of Labor Law Administration by Military and Naval Discipline. "Where Civilian Control Alone Should Exist."

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Strong opposition to the growing tendency to appoint naval and military officials to administrative positions outside of arsenals and navy yards, was expressed by the delegates to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor.

The matter came before the convention in a resolution introduced by Delegate Kenneth I. Taylor of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor. The resolution deplored "the trend at the present time to appoint in administrative positions of officers of the armed forces of the United States, in control of purely civil activities of our government," as contrary to all principles of government by the people," and declared that this military and naval domination of civilian activity is detrimental to the rights and continued liberties of the organized as well as the unorganized workers."

In addition, the Massachusetts resolution urged the American Federation of Labor to "seek legislation which will prevent any of any officials being placed in control or supervision of any government activity performed by civilian workers."

In acting on the resolution submitted by Delegate Taylor, the Resolutions Committee of the convention submitted a report, which the convention adopted, decrying the practices complained of and asked the convention to refer the matter to the A. F. of L. Executive Council with instructions to take any necessary action to prevent the supervision of civilian workers by persons who are not civilians.

The text of the Resolutions Committee report which the convention adopted follows:

"This resolution refers to the control and supervision of civilian labor by Commissioned Officers of the Army and the Navy.

"Your Committee is advised that there is upon the statute books a provision that Army and Navy Officers shall be limited in their supervision and control of civilian labor, particularly in the naval and marine establishments, such as navy yards and arsenals.

"Your Committee is further informed that there has been a definite tendency in recent years on the part of naval and military officers in control of arsenals and navy yards to ignore this law, and to place Commissioned Officers in charge of labor direction and control which should properly, and under the law, be confined to civilians.

"Your Committee further finds from information brought to it that there is a tendency to extend this supervision and control of labor by Army and Naval Officers to extend itself to civilian labor outside of navy yards and arsenals.

"Your Committee notes that in connection with public works and the administration of labor legislation that more and more Commissioned Officers of the Army and Navy are being appointed to executive and supervisory positions, bringing the atmosphere of military discipline, military orders and military control where civilian control alone should exist.

"So that this growingly serious situation may be adequately handled, your Committee recommends that the resolution be referred to the Executive Council with instructions to make such study and take such steps as are necessary to prevent any definite assignment of supervision and direction of civilian labor other than by civilians.

"Your Committee approves of the purpose and principles of the resolution, and recommends the favorable adoption of the Committee's report."

A. F. of L. CONTINUES PEACE COMMITTEE

Negotiations to Adjust Controversy Will Be Renewed With Representatives of the C. I. O. "Whenever That Organization Will Indicate a Willingness to Resume Conferences," Cincinnati Convention Declares.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Complete indorsement of the report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor on the "C. I. O. and Peace Negotiations," made to the annual convention of the Federation here, was indorsed without a dissenting vote by the more than five hundred delegates attending the convention.

The matter came before the convention from the Resolutions Committee which approved the Council's statement of the A. F. of L. relations with the C. I. O. from the time the Lewis group was organized and the continued efforts of the Executive Council to bring about unity in the labor movement.

In addition, the report expressed confidence in the peace committee appointed by President Green. The committee consists of Daniel J. Tobin, Matthew Woll, Daniel J. Tobin and Thomas A. Rickert, all Vice Presidents of the American Federation of Labor.

Finally the report asserted that the A. F. of L. committee is ready to again take up conferences with the C. I. O. whenever that organization expressed a desire to resume negotiations.

A. F. of L. Peace Committee Indorsed

The Resolutions Committee report which the convention adopted, said in part:

"Upon that portion of the Executive Council's report, C. I. O. and Peace Negotiations, your Committee approves of the thorough-going, carefully prepared statement of the relations with the C. I. O. from the inception of that organization, and of the continued efforts of the Executive Council to re-establish unity.

"Your Committee realizing the wide-spread interest in the whole situation, relative to the actions of the American Federation of Labor, and the necessity that our own membership, that of other labor organizations, and the public at large, should be given a complete record, recommend that the Executive Council have prepared in pamphlet form a history of the position taken by the American Federation of Labor from the time when the C. I. O. was first conceived and organized.

"Your Committee expresses its confidence in the membership of the committee appointed by President Green to continue negotiations with representatives of the C. I. O.

"Your Committee reaffirmance recommends that the present committee of the American Federation of Labor be continued, and that it hold itself in readiness to meet with representatives of the C. I. O. whenever that organization will indicate a willingness to resume conferences.

"Your Committee finds that the Executive Council has prepared a most important document in its report and recommends the adoption of the report by this convention."

What the Executive Council Reported

The report of the Executive Council on the "C. I. O. and Peace Negotiations," which the convention approved and ordered printed in pamphlet form, reviewed the developments which took place in the controversy between the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. during the past year, including the resumption of peace negotiations in February at the request of President Roosevelt, the refusal of Charles Mac John L. Lewis of the C. I. O. to continue the conferences after their resumption, the conference on April 5th at the request of Lewis himself, and the efforts made thereafter by the C. I. O. leadership to raid the building trades already thoroughly organized by unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Solid United Labor Movement

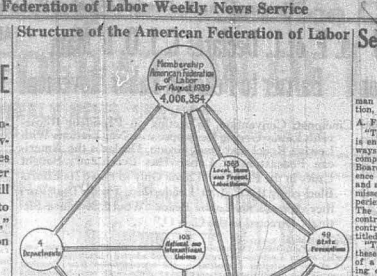
In concluding its report, the Executive Council said:

"Finally, the Executive Council submits in chronological order the developments which took place in the negotiations for the re-establishment of Labor to the dual, rebel C. I. O. movement, and in all the efforts which have been put forth to conclude a peace with the C. I. O. which have been rejected by the American C. I. O. organizations to the American Federation of Labor.

"The facts set forth in this report are supported by the records which have been made. We must have in the honest, sincere and calm determination of the membership of the American Federation of Labor, the working men and women of the nation, the question as to who is responsible for the existence of this division within the ranks of labor and the cause for its continuance in a most aggravated and destructive form.

"Our Committee still stands, clothed with full power, ready and ready to resume negotiations when it is accorded an opportunity to do so. We have done our full share in the American Federation of Labor wide and comprehensive efforts. We have invited those who left the American Federation of Labor to return; we have urged them to come back home and settle differences within the family of labor in a sensible, honest and fair way. In doing this we have been rejected by a genuine desire to establish here in America a solid, united labor movement through which the economic, social and industrial interests of the workers of the nation can be fully and completely served."

Structure of the American Federation of Labor


Membership Reported on Labor Day Report, 1939
4,006,354
4 Departments
1249 Local Trade and Federal Unions
49 State Federations
1031 Central and Municipal Labor Unions
204 City Central Bodies
942 Local Trade Council Councils
33,724 LOCAL LABOR UNIONS CHARTERED BY INTERNATIONALS

Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison of the American Federation of Labor, in his Report to the Fifty-ninth Annual Convention of the Federation, which opened at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 2, included this chart "showing the manner in which the American Federation of Labor is organized commencing with the local unions of the National and International Unions and the local trade and federal labor unions directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor as the source from which all funds are secured to carry on every activity in the labor movement."

Morones Urges Renewed Activities By Pan-American Federation of Labor

Representative of Mexican Federation Says United Efforts of Organized Labor Throughout North and South America Is Essential to Curb Communist Efforts to Overthrow Bona Fide Trade Union Movement.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Luis N. Morones, vice president of the Pan American Federation of Labor and head of the Mexican Federation of Labor, made a strong plea to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor that the Pan-American Federation of Labor, established twenty-one years ago, should resume its activities with special reference to the workers in Mexico, Central America and South America.

In introducing Mr. Morones to the convention, President William Green, of the American Federation of Labor, said:

"I am happy to announce that we have another and most interesting visitor with us who has traveled a long way to meet and greet the officers and delegates in attendance at this convention.

Secretary of Labor Under Calles

"You have long known of the problems confronting the Mexican workers. We have always been associated with the Mexican Federation of Labor in a co-operative way for the purpose of trying to promote the common interests of the workers of both the United States and the Republic of Mexico. So there is a deep bond of sympathy and understanding prevailing between the workers which our good friend and distinguished visitor represents and the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor. I am going to present him to you now. He will speak to you in Spanish, and his speech will be translated as he makes it by Mr. Haberman, his official interpreter.

"All of you have heard of Luis Morones. He was the Secretary of Labor during the administration of Elias Plutarcho Calles who served the people of Mexico as its President. He is now, and has always been, associated with the Mexican Federation of Labor. He has been persecuted, driven from his country and has suffered much because of his loyalty to his own nation and because of his devotion to the principles for which our organized labor movement stands.

"I am happy to present to you for a short address Brother Luis Morones of the Mexican Federation of Labor."

Communists Undermine Mexican Labor Movement

Pointing out that certain "intellectuals who came and sat at our table when the Mexican Federation of Labor was powerful and prosperous," Mr. Morones said it was these same elements, led by Lombardo Toledano, and others that were used by the Communist forces, whose main work was not only to destroy all that we had tried to do, but also to point to us as betrayers of the workers from Mexico.

"Toledano and those associated with him pointed to our movement as a reactionary movement, and with the Communist flag in their hands they tried to impress upon the workers of Mexico that only under that flag the workers could obtain their rights."

Solidarity With A. F. of L. Urged

Declaring that "the workers of Mexico as well as the workers of the United States believe that their solidarity and safety rests with the American Federation of Labor in this country and with the Mexican Federation of Labor in my country," Mr. Morones continued:

"We are going to stop at nothing to denounce and expose all those elements in my country and in this country, elements which are trying to destroy our respective labor movements.

"These are the times when we must do this work of exposing our enemies, these days when there is the menace of the European tragedy on top of us and which is bound to affect the well being and the fate of the workers, not only of this continent, but of Europe.

Advocates Application of Pan-American Federation of Labor's Program

"The American Federation of Labor, the Mexican Federation of Labor, and many other labor organizations on this hemisphere are part of the Pan-American Federation of Labor. A few months ago the Executive Council of the Pan-American Federation of Labor met under the auspices of President Green. It took up many matters and important matters were decided.

"I have been charged by my organization to present to you the request that now, more than ever, in the face of these tragic realities under which we are living, that the Pan-American Federation of Labor, under the presidency of President Green, comply with its program.

"I am certain that you representatives of American labor will do all you can to see that the Pan-American Federation of Labor complies with its mission, not only for the benefit of the workers of this continent, but for the benefit of the workers the world over.

"We are ready, and we are remaining ready in spite of oppression, in spite of persecution that may come, to maintain our connection with that movement. We are ready to serve as members of the Pan-American Federation of Labor.

Communists Oppose Unity With A. F. of L.

"There is nothing that will be able to break the relations which exist between the organized workers of my country and the organized workers of this country. We have had people who tried to bring about the breaking up of these relations between the labor movement of this country and the labor movements in the Nazi Germany. It has been useless for the agents of Russian Communism to try to bring about the breaking of relations between the working people of these two countries.

"Today, more than ever, the work of these agents will be in evidence, and today, more than ever, we must coordinate our work and cooperate with each other. In Mexico, we are still guided by the spirit and the words of Samuel Gompers, the man who never rested when it became possible to better the condition of the workers of Mexico or of the United States. The program of working hand in hand with the American labor movement will go on. Nobody will be able to destroy our purpose, today or at any other time.

Opposes Russian Unions In U. F. W. U.

"Before ending, I would like to make a correction to a statement that was made by Brother Frank J. Hayes Green when he spoke about the admission of Russia to the International Federation of Trade Unions.

"He said that the Mexican Federation of Labor voted to admit Russia. It was not my organization, it was not the Mexican Federation of Labor that voted. We were not present there. We were not there. It was the representative of a political organization which is under the control of the Mexican government. It does not represent Mexican labor. We will never cease to fight any influences that comes from totalitarian countries, and as such we could not vote for Russia to enter the League, and will fight on all grounds Communism and Nazism and Fascism.

Upholds Justice and Democracy

"Brothers, in the name of my organization, I bring to you its fraternal kindness and friendship. We carry much curtailed because thirty-four states forbid their transportation across their borders for sale on the open market.

"After fully considering the seriousness of the competition of prison labor with free labor, the convention recommended that in the 34 States still lacking the State-use system in the manufacture of goods, wares, and merchandise produced by prison labor that the State Federations continue in their endeavors to have legislatures enact convict labor legislation."

Senator Taft Reports A. F. of L. Amendments to Labor Relations Act

(Continued from Page 1)

man voting at a secret ballot election, it is hard to see.

A. F. of L. Contracts Abrogated

"The amendment which you suggest is entirely inconsistent with the principle of the present Board in that it would abrogate contracts with A. F. of L. unions, contracts made in good faith and entitled to respect.

"The ignorance of the Board in these cases reminds me of the story of a Catholic priest who one morning delivered a sermon on the subject of matrimony. Two old Irish women, Mrs. O'Rourke and Mrs. Flannigan, sat listened to the sermon. When they came out of the church Mrs. O'Rourke said to Mrs. Flannigan, 'Wasn't that a lovely sermon on matrimony?' 'Yes,' said Mrs. Flannigan, 'it was a great sermon, and I wish to God I knew as little about it as he does.'

"Perhaps it is not entirely ignorance which prevents the Board from distinguishing between a company union and an American Federation of Labor union.

Craft Union Rights Must Be Safeguarded

"The right of craft unions to exist, the right of members of the craft to decide whether they wish to join a craft union or be merged in a general plant union, should be safeguarded by the act. The Board has repeatedly destroyed craft unions, and drawn its desire to assist the philosophy which demands their destruction. These unions are the oldest in the country. They are the most beneficial treatment to which skilled employes are entitled. Their existence is entirely consistent with the organization of other employes in other unions. They should be protected.

Definite Rules for Elections Urged

"The questions of elections should be definitely regulated by law. The Board has held that there is no available basis to support that the men desire a change in the conditions of labor, and that the petition is brought in good faith. While I think the Board should not promptly fix the date of an election, I think it should give it considerable power to postpone the actual date after a considerable lapse, so that all parties would have ample opportunity to present their case to the voters.

"The Act should also prescribe the form of ballot, and require that all unions, other than company unions, be entitled as of right to a place on such ballot.

"The law should be amended so as to limit the Board's discretion in the matter of evidence and subpoenas, which has been so arbitrarily exercised. Anyone should be entitled to subpoenas unless obviously sought in bad faith. There should be no secret files containing evidence to which the parties are refused access.

Separation of Judicial and Prosecuting Functions Advocated

"In my opinion, there should be a separation of the judicial and prosecuting functions of the Board. This has not been recommended by your committee, but it seems to me obvious that a man cannot be a prosecutor and a judge in the same case and be fair. However, I do not favor Senator Burke's amendment providing that the judicial end of the job be handled by the District Courts. I would rather incline to a judicial section in the Department of Labor, similar to the Board of Tax Appeals in the Department of the Treasury, which has worked well. I see no objection to having the same department handle both the judicial work and the prosecuting division, but neither one should be appointed by the other. It seems obvious to me that a man cannot be impartial in a case which he himself has originated in the prosecution of which his subordinates have prepared.

Criticizes Senator Burke's Bill

"Senator Burke's bill provides for various unfair labor practices on the part of employers. I do not agree with the principle of this proposal. The whole purpose of the act is to encourage collective bargaining and even if there are unfair labor practices on the part of the unions, it should not be a cause of action against such unions. On the other hand, it seems unreasonable that men who engage in illegal acts, break union contracts, engage in sit-down strikes in violation of contracts, or perform other illegal acts, should have any right to go back to work even in some cases to reinstatement. The Supreme Court has recognized the unfairness of some of the Board's orders in this respect, and the principles laid down by the Supreme Court be recognized in some specific provisions of law.

Visions Enactment of A. F. of L. Amendments

"I feel very hopeful that amendments to the act may be adopted at the next session of Congress. Hearings were delayed until it was too late for the administration itself. Those who oppose every correction of present conditions have many friends in Congress, and that the inertia of the present situation is so clear, that any demand for amendment is insistent, that action will surely be taken. The act can be amended now without any real consideration of basic purposes, but if resentment against unjust administration becomes too great, there is every chance that public opinion will destroy the act without distinguishing between sound principle and unjust administration."

Defense Fund For A. F. of L. Local Trade And Federal Labor Unions Has Good Balance

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The defense fund set up by the American Federation of Labor for the directly affiliated local trade and federal labor unions is in sound financial condition, Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison reported to the annual convention of the Federation at Cincinnati, Ohio, on

"During the year," the report said, "$150,000 was transferred from the defense fund to the general fund as a charge against federal labor unions for additional organizing, servicing and special organizing campaign."

The report showed that on August 31, 1938, the balance in the defense fund was $436,774.96. The receipts for the twelve months ending August 31, 1939, totaled $256,958.58. Of this amount, $95,000 was "per capita benefits, $2,175 in assistance to members of striking unions, and $7,500 as an affiliation fee to the Workers Education Bureau. In addition, $150,000 was transferred from the defense fund to the general fund, leaving a balance in the defense fund on August 31, 1939, of $591,963.54.

WESTERN UNION GRANTS CONTRACT TO A.F.L. UNIT

Washington Agreement With Commercial Telegraphers Union Is First One the Company Has Signed.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The Western Union membership of the Commercial Telegraphers Union in Washington, D. C., ratified on October 4 by 97 to 1 the Western Union agreement ever negotiated with a bona fide labor union, it was announced to the A. F. of L. convention by International President Frank B. Powers.

Negotiations had been in progress since May of this year, following certification by election of the C. T. U. by the National Labor Relations Board. The agreement covers all Washington employes, including messengers, clerks, operators and testing and regulating workers. Increases are to be given to employes in the brackets below $110 a month, mostly clerks and messengers.

"The agreement with the Western Union is an historic step in labor relations between the Western Union Telegraph Co. and organizations of telegraphers," the announcement said. "Since the 60's, the struggle has been going on, marked by bloody strikes in 1870, 1883, 1907 and 1919. We were able to consummate this agreement without recourse to a strike because of the National Labor Relations Act and the Conciliation Department of the Labor Department.

"Wages under this agreement will range from $60 to $90 per month for those the scales agreed to by the CIO old movement in Postal. The lowest operator now receives, in Washington, for example, will get an average of 55c per hour if employed by Postal, or $3 an hour if employed by the Western Union."

A. F. OF L. CONTINUES ONE CENT ASSESSMENT

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The delegates to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor voted to continue for one year the assessment of one cent per member per month to provide for the extension of the Labor Union-wide campaign to organize working men and women into unions affiliated with the Federation.

In taking this action the convention approved the Executive Council's report on the campaign which has put hundreds of thousands of new members has been added during the year to the ranks affiliated with the A. F. of L.

In recommending the continuance of the assessment, the Executive Council declared:

"Based upon the facts, the wide experience of the Executive Council, of the American Federation of Labor and its intimate knowledge of the facts and realities of organizing work which must be met, the Executive Council recommends that the Fifty-Ninth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor extend the assessment of one cent per member per month for the ensuing year, to be used for the purpose of carrying on the campaign to organize working men and women into unions affiliated with the Federation of Labor."

AFL INCOME FOR YEAR TOTALED $1,800,249

Fiscal Period Closed with Balance of $546,504. Secretary-Treasurer Morrison Reports.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The soundness of the financial affairs of the American Federation of Labor was statistically portrayed in the report of Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison to the annual convention of the Federation here.

"At the close of the fiscal year," the report said, "there was on hand and on hand of $546,504.36. Of this total $501,963.54 is in the defense fund for the local trade and federal labor unions and the balance, $44,540.82, is in the general fund.

"The total receipts from all sources, $1,800,249.76, the total expenses, $1,497,576.22. Among the receipts were per capita tax amounted to $883,972.; $71 assessments totaled $441,965.32; initiation fees, $63,448.98, American Federationist, $385,726.60.

"On the expense side the larger items were: Organizers' salaries and organizing expenses, $389,546.66; office employes, $184,676.62; printing and publishing American Federationist, $60,000.00; legal services, $27,788.18. Defense fund refunds and lockout benefits), $41,770; Executive Council meetings, $21,134.25; supplies and printing, $40,321.24; social security tax (old-age benefits, unemployment insurance), general office, $7,000.

A note in the report regarding organizing campaigns said:

"During the 12 months ending August 31, 1939, the American Federation of Labor has transmitted organizing activities $890,549.66. Of this amount, $376,441.32 was spent in organizing and servicing the directly affiliated trade and federal labor unions' locals balance, $513,107.84, was incurred in the formation and assistance of newly formed local unions of national and international unions and in activities in behalf of state federations of labor and city central bodies."

Ninth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor reaffirmed and direct the continuance of the one cent per member per month assessment, which was originally and officially levied by the Fifty-Seventh Annual Convention held in Washington, organization of Labor and which has continued in effect ever since.

"The continuance of this income of the American Federation of Labor, at its present amount at least, will make it possible to consolidate and hold the gains we have made, to protect the legal rights of the workers through service rendered by our legal department, to adequately and properly protect the cases of the workers which are presented to the National Labor Relations Board, and to continue to increase the high degree of service which the American Federation of Labor has always given to the workers of the nation."

PER CAPITA TAX BOOST DEFEATED BY A. F. OF L.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The American Federation of Labor convention defeated a resolution offered by the delegates of the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers Brotherhood to increase the per capita tax of affiliated unions from one to two cents per month. The resolution was adversely reported by the Committee on Laws, of which Vice President Tobin is chairman.

Delegate Burke of the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers urged the higher dues as a substitute for the special assessment of one cent per month levied by the Executive Council. Tobin and Delegate Volz of the Photo Engravers opposed the increase.

Vice President Tobin pointed out that inasmuch as the convention had already voted to continue the assessment for another year, the proposed increase in the per capita tax would raise the total collected from each member to three cents for a year, which he said was inadvisable.

Delegate Volz pointed out that the increase in the per capita tax required a two-thirds vote of the convention, and likewise a two-thirds vote to reduce it, while the assessment could be continued or stopped by a majority vote.

STATE-USE SYSTEM OF CONVICT LABOR URGED

A. F. of L. Recommends Campaign to Extend Legislation Banning Competition of Convict Labor With Free Labor.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Renewed condemnation of the use of convict labor in competition with free labor and the indorsement of the support of the State-use system in the production of goods made by prison labor was asserted as a policy of the American Federation of Labor by the annual convention of the Federation in session here.

The convention considered the following report of the Executive Council of Federation on the convict labor question:

"Several states are still lacking the state-use system in the manufacture of goods, wares and merchandise. In these states we have practically no laws governing prison labor. These are: Alabama, Delaware, Missouri, Nevada, North Dakota, South Carolina, Vermont, West Virginia and Wyoming. While the latter has no laws governing convict labor, the administration prohibits the sale of convict made goods at the open market.

"Florida and Indiana adopted a state-use system this year but the following states still refuse to indorse the state-use system: Alabama, Delaware, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Carolina, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

"Eventually those states will have to adopt proper legislation as their present system produces prison labor very much curtailed because thirty-four states forbid their transportation across their borders for sale on the open market.

"After fully considering the seriousness of the competition of prison labor with free labor, the convention recommended that in the 34 States still lacking the State-use system in the manufacture of goods, wares, and merchandise produced by prison labor that the State Federations continue in their endeavors to have legislatures enact convict labor legislation."

Full Approval of the New Deal Denied By the American Federation of Labor

Cincinnati Convention Declares a Number of New Deal Laws Have Benefited the Workers But That On the Other Hand, the A. F. of L. Has Been Compelled to Oppose Certain New Deal Legislation and Administrative Procedure as Hostile to Labor.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The delegates to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor refused to give an A. F. of L. blanket indorsement to President Roosevelt and the New Deal.

The matter came before the convention originally in a resolution introduced by Delegate John J. Egan, representing the Connecticut State Federation of Labor, recommending that the convention "give its full support to the New Deal and to President Roosevelt."

The Resolutions Committee, of which Matthew Woll is chairman and John P. Frey, secretary, recommended in a conservatively worded report that the Connecticut resolution be defeated.

The substance of the report was that although some of the New Deal legislation, such as the Social Security Act, have been favorable to the workers, the American Federation of Labor, on the other hand, has been compelled to oppose certain New Deal legislation and administrative acts as detrimental to the interests of working men and women. Therefore, the report said, the American Federation of Labor cannot give a blanket indorsement to either the New Deal or the President.

Text of Resolutions Committee Report

Following is the text of the Resolutions Committee report which the convention adopted:

"This resolution calls for a blanket endorsement of what is popularly known as the New Deal without defining what is covered by the term New Deal.

"In addition, it calls for the condemnation of the members of the political party in power who failed to support all so-called New Deal measures, and for the endorsement of members of the minority party who had done likewise.

"The actions of previous conventions on certain legislative measures, the action of special conferences called by the American Federation of Labor, and recommendations made in connection with certain measures by the American Federation of Labor, make it impossible for your Committee to recommend any blanket endorsement as called for by the resolution.

"The resolution does not distinguish between Congressional and Administrative action, neither does it distinguish between actions of the Administration, and of Bureaus, Boards and Commissions.

Legislation Opposed by A. F. of L.

"The Houston Convention of the A. F. of L. instructed the Executive Council to energetically work to prevent the confirmation of Donald Wakefield Smith as a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

"The American Federation of Labor was actively opposed to the enactment of the first Reorganization Bill.

"The American Federation of Labor was actively and energetically opposed to the legislative measure which destroyed the Prevailing Wage which had previously protected labor.

"The Houston Convention of the American Federation of Labor, by a unanimous vote, insisted upon amendments to the Wagner Act, not in any opposition to the basic provisions of the Act, but because of its biased administration.

Some Laws Benefited Labor

"On the other hand, your Committee is fully conscious of the many legislative and executive acts that have proven most beneficial to labor, some of them, such as Social Security, providing a necessary protection to labor which should have been enacted many years ago.

"Your Committee, however, has cited several instances where the American Federation of Labor in its efforts to protect labor's rights and welfare, has been forced to oppose legislation understood to have been originated by the New Deal. We have avoided any cataloguing of those New Deal measures which we have supported and which we have opposed.

"Your Committee is further of the opinion that members of Congress cannot be arbitrarily divided into New Deal and anti-New Deal, for a number of those who have been our outstanding champions over many years, and who have supported the majority of New Deal measures have also at times opposed some measures which were recognized as New Deal.

"For these and many other reasons, your Committee regrets the introduction of the resolution. It is obvious that a political construction would be placed upon the rejection of the resolution, and equally so upon its adoption.

Blanket Endorsement Held Inadvisable

"The hearty support which the trade union movement has given to a large number of New Deal measures should not lead this convention to give its blanket endorsement of all legislation which has been proposed or enacted by the so-called New Deal. Labor should not be in opposition to certain New Deal legislative and administrative acts permit us to voice opposition of the New Deal.

"In view of the foregoing, and the substance of your Committee's report, we recommend non-concurrence with the resolution."

A. F. of L. Declares C. I. O. Is Main Barrier to Peace in Labor Movement

Cincinnati Convention, In Acting on President Roosevelt's Letter Urging Resumption on Negotiations With Lewis's Rebel and Dual Group, Declares the American Federation of Labor Has Persistently Sought Unity in the Family of Labor Only to Have Its Efforts Blocked by the C. I. O. Leadership; Holds That Further Appeals for Labor Peace "Would Be More Fittingly Directed to the C. I. O."

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The hundreds of delegates attending the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor adopted unanimously the report of the Resolutions Committee on the communication from President Roosevelt that negotiations for a settlement of the controversy between the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O., which were abruptly broken off last summer by John L. Lewis, chairman of the C. I. O., should be resumed and continued until unity in the labor movement is achieved.

The report presented by the Resolutions Committee, of which Matthew Woll is chairman and John P. Frey, secretary, reviewed the efforts taken by the American Federation of Labor to secure labor peace and charged the C. I. O. with responsibility for the continuance of dissunity by setting itself up as a permanent organization last November and by mere recently leaving the building trades whose workers are well organized in the Building and Construction Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor.

In addition, the report outlined the resumption of negotiations with the C. I. O. last February at the request of the President only to have the conferences between the two groups brought to an end by the decree of the chairman of the C. I. O.

The text of the report adopted by the convention follows:

"Your Committee has had before it for consideration, the letter addressed to this convention by the President of the United States, in which he urged the American Federation of Labor to again meet with representatives of the C. I. O. for the purpose of endeavoring to bring unity in the American trade union movement.

"We also have the reply made to that communication by the President of the American Federation of Labor.

"It has been impossible for your Committee to consider these two important communications without keeping in mind the detailed and historic record covering the efforts of the American Federation of Labor from the beginning to bring unity into effect.

"The record presented to this convention by the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. is exhaustive. It is a record of the facts, a record which indicates that from the time the C. I. O. was organized, continuous efforts were made by the American Federation of Labor to heal the breach.

"The record indicates that before the President of the United States took official notice of the breach, a conference was held between duly appointed representatives of both organizations, and that the conference referred to was able to reach an agreement as the principles involved in establishing unity, and the methods by which those principles would be applied.

"The record further indicates that after the representatives of the C. I. O. had agreed on these principles and methods, that they were vetoed by the Chairman of the C. I. O. This action, in substance, is giving a repudiation of what his own representatives had agreed to.

"The record further indicates that appeal to the Houston Convention last year to take immediate steps to heal the breach which existed, a similar communication being sent to the representtives of the C. I. O.

"The communication to the Houston Convention was the President's request.

"Although the American Federation of Labor placed itself publicly on record as favoring a conference with the representatives of the C. I. O., the response from that organization was the immediate calling of a conference in Pittsburgh, Pa., for the purpose of setting up a permanent established C. I. O. movement.

"On February 23d, 1939, the President of the United States addressed a letter to the President of the American Federation of Labor and the Chairman of the C. I. O., calling attention to the necessity for unity in the American trade union movement, and urging that peace conferences be between the two organizations be resumed.

"As a result duly appointed representatives of both organizations did meet, their conferences culminating in a statement which, in effect, would give his attention to negotiations between the United Mine Workers of America and the Coal Operators.

"The conferences were postponed upon the request of the Chairman of the C. I. O., and with the definite understanding that they would be resumed, following the Executive Council meeting of the A. F. of L. immediately it would become possible for him to take part.

"Although the Committee of the A. F. of L. has held itself in readiness, it has received no further information as to when the Chairman of the C. I. O. would take place.

"On the other hand, public announcement was made in the interim by the Chairman of the C. I. O., that peace as such was secondary to the objectives of that organization.

"Shortly after, in a communication addressed to officials of the C. I. O. reporting on the meeting of its Executive Board, he wrote:

> "Among many problems discussed at length was the question of unity, and the Executive Board reiterated that peace with the A. F. of L. is impossible except upon their terms and conditions. This would mean the stripping of many of our new unions and the abandonment of organization in the unorganized in industrial unions. This the C. I. O. will not do."

"This communication was shortly followed by another public statement announcing the determination of the C. I. O. to invade the jurisdiction of the building trades, thus clearly indicating that instead of considering peace negotiations, the C. I. O. was arbitrarily preparing for an intensified campaign of antagonism.

"In full appreciation of the President's efforts to be helpful in bringing unity within the American trade union movement, and appreciative of the efforts which he has made, we submit that the record from the time the C. I. O. was organized contains continuous efforts on the part of the American Federation of Labor to make unity a fact, that all of these efforts have been frustrated by the Chairman of the C. I. O.

"We recognize that under the unhappy condition created by the division in the ranks of labor, it was appropriate that the President of the United States should address a similar appeal to both organizations.

"Your Committee calls attention to the fact that further appeals would be more fittingly directed to the C. I. O., for from the inception of the C. I. O. the American Federation of Labor has been ready and most willing to consider any proposal for unity. That unity could be established, and your Committee is of the conviction that this will continue to be the policy of the American Federation of Labor.

"Your Committee recommends that the report of the President Green's reply to the President of the United States, and recommends that this communication receive the approval of the convention."

COMPERS MEMORIAL FUND REPORT SHOWS BALANCE

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Frank Morrison, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, reported on the status of the Compers Memorial fund to the annual convention of the Federation at Cincinnati, Ohio. Pointing out that the fund was raised by the directors of the American Federation of Labor, his report said the receipts from December 20, 1924, to August 31, 1939, including interest, totaled $133,-984.12, and that the expenses from January 12, 1922, to August 31, 1939, totaled $110,458.87, leaving a balance on hand on August 31, 1939, of $14,-125.25.

The Compers Memorial constructed laborers in both peace and democracy. All told some two hundred organizations with attractive but non-Communistic names, have brought into existence as a result of instructions received from Moscow.

Of particular importance to the American Federation of Labor is the testimony that the Communist Party has been successful in these efforts, and has secured a foothold in the great American trade union movement.

"The record shows that the American Federation of Labor has been unsuccessful in these efforts, and has remained on the sidelines.

"In the interest of maintenance of American institutions, as well as that of a trade union movement that is based upon sound American institutions, it is deplorable that a minority section of an American labor movement should have permitted itself to cooperate with Communism, and to have associated itself with Communist activities.

"Your Committee recommends that approval be given the Executive Council's efforts to assist the La Follette and the Dies Committees in the continuation of its most necessary investigation of a condition within our borders which was becoming more and more intolerable."

C. I. O. Pay Rolls Loaded With Communists, A. F. of L. Declares

Cincinnati Convention Says Dies Committee Sustains Charge That Hundreds of Reds Not Only Worked Through Lewis Group, But Also Dominated Several "Popular Front Organizations"; Dies Committee and La Follette Civil Liberties Committee Are Both Endorsed.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio—Unanimous approval was given by the delegates attending the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor to the report of the Resolutions Committee of the convention endorsing the work of both the Dies Committee's authorized investigation of subversive activities and the La Follette Civil Liberties Committee, whose field is the investigation of practices used by employers to prevent labor organizations from exercising the civil rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

The report called attention to the fact that the charge originally made by trade unionists affiliated with American Federation of Labor that many Communists were salaried employes of the C. I. O. were thoroughly sustained by the testimony of competent witnesses before the Dies Committee, many of them officials or ex-officials of the Communist Party, and that testimony was also given supporting the claim that Communists formed and dominated a number of so-called "popular front" groups, whose function is to spread Communist propaganda disguised as liberalism.

The text of the resolution adopted by the Resolutions Committee which the A. F. of L. convention adopted follows:

"Reports of the Council of the A. F. of L. reports upon its efforts to secure an additional appropriation to continue the work of the LaFollette Sub-Committee, which was authorized by the 74th Congress to investigate violations of civil liberties.

"Your Committee notes that the A. F. of L.'s efforts to secure the appropriation of $100,000.00 for the continuation of the committee's work were not wholly successful, but that largely as a result of A. F. of L. efforts an additional appropriation of $50,000.00 was secured to further assist the committee in its work.

"Your Committee would call attention to the fact that the Executive Council gave every assistance possible to securing a continuation of the powers of the Committee, with a sufficient appropriation to more adequately enable it to continue its work.

A. F. of L. Assisted

"The results of the committee's investigations this year have become widely known through the press, and in addition to an immense number of official documents previously published, Kast and Fischer activities in our country.

"The Dies Committee had before it in connection with Communist activities, such outstanding officials of the Communist Party as Earl Browder, the General Secretary; Wm. F. Foster, its President; Benjamin Gitlow, former Secretary, and Joseph Zack, a charter member of the Communist Party in this country, a Communist official in immediate charge of activities of the Trade Union Unity League, an American representative of the Third Party, and a Communist representative for a period in South America.

"The collective evidence of these officials, supplemented by other witnesses who were or had been members of the Communist Party, definitely established the fact that Communists in this country adopt only the policies which are laid down by Moscow, and face immediate expulsion when these policies are changed.

"Zack's testimony verified what American trade unionists had before charged, that the Trade Union Unity League was established, it was wholly financed from Moscow, the entire collective testimony further proving that Moscow has continued to subsidize the Communist Party in this country.

"The testimony of these witnesses proves that one of the functions of the Communist Party was to organize so-called popular front organizations through which Communist purpose and Communist policy could be carried on without the knowledge of much of the membership.

Name Changed

"They changed the name of the League Against War and Fascism to the American Peace and Democracy, particularly in recent years securing the support of large numbers of liberals who were unaware of the Communist control and direction, but who were ardent believers in peace and democracy, securing any foothold in the great

ANTI-PICKETING LAWS FLAYED BY A. F. OF L.

(Continued from Page 1)

Governor Bottolfsen vetoed it at the demand of organized labor.

"Restrictions on picketing, boycotting, and persuasion of non-unionists in connection with labor disputes and organizing campaigns," the Executive Council said, "are contained in the new State labor relations acts of Minnesota and Michigan, and the amended act of Pennsylvania, and in the new Wisconsin act that was substituted for the 1937 Little Wagner Act.

"These restrictions are generally couched in such elastic and ambiguous terms as to leave the boundaries of permissible action extremely uncertain. Therein lies, perhaps, their chief nuisance value.

"Ample new grounds are opened up for the issuance of injunctions, even in states like Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, where this dangerous judicial power had been curbed; and in some cases union members and sympathizers may run the additional risks of damage suits and criminal prosecutions.

"In Wisconsin a three-fourths vote is now required to enter into a closed shop contract, instead of a mere majority. The check-off of union dues must be individually authorized by a secret majority vote."

STATE FUND URGED FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION

American Federation of Labor Also Condemns Lax Administration of Compensation Laws.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Strong condemnation of the faulty administration of State laws covering compensation for accidents and occupational disease was registered by the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here.

Pointing out that the recently created Social Security Board compensation law had been suspended until November, a resolution said that the amendment of the American Federation of Labor respecting the unit rule in industrial unions is identical with the New York Act and is based on the principles of the Railway Labor Act.

"In a recent decision—(the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company case), the Board held that the workers in a separate plant of the company, who had been unwillingly opposed to being represented by the C. I. O., were to be represented by the C. I. O. regardless of an existing contract to the contrary. A member of the Board filed a vigorous dissenting opinion and discuses his colleagues of flaunting the basic provisions of the Act in order to fix a result to their own fancy."

"It is apparent from these and other decisions of the Board that the members are suspicious of one another's motives and the accusations contained in these decisions emphasize the urgent necessity for the adoption of the American Federation of Labor Amendments so as to stop this practice of one member of the Board, and to eliminate decisions setting up units to 'suit the fancy of its members' instead of complying with law.

Right of Appeal From Board Decisions Must Be Guaranteed

"Other problems of great consequence still remain which can only be resolved by amending the Act. The Board itself has been denied in cases such as the West Coast Longshoremen's case, the Progressive Mine Workers' cases, where petitions for certification have been dismissed without a hearing and without any reason being assigned for the dismissals. The problem of extraordinary and outrageous delay in adjudicating cases must be eliminated. The rule making power of the Board by which it assumes the power to legislate and through which it has legislated against the interests of the American Federation of Labor must be curbed. This rule making power as exercised by the Board, that is, the promulgation of rules without according interested parties the right of a hearing endangers the Constitutional form of government of our democracy.

Equal Standing With Other Labor Organizations Demanded

"Our movement could not remain silent when it became evident that it would not have an equal standing with any other labor organization before the law.

"We were actuated by a deep-seated conviction that we were defending the structure and the principles of the American Federation of Labor from one of the most insidious and dangerous attacks it had ever encountered.

"Nothing could have been more dangerous to the American Federation of Labor than to permit decisions to go unchallenged which, in substance, declared that the American Federation of Labor was not the equal before the law with any other labor organization, or that the National Labor Relations Act authorized the Board to reshape the form and structure of the American trade union movement.

Labor Board's Dilatory Procedure Promoted Congressional Investigation

"The dilatory tactics in the commencement of hearings before Congress eventuated in the adoption of a resolution to investigate the National Labor Relations Board by a committee of the House. The resolution was adopted by an overwhelming vote.

"If the result of this investigation should result in impairing in any way the responsibility must rest upon the shoulders of the National Labor Relations Board and its officials who refuse to yield to reasonable amendments which have in the resolution was proposed, and must be charged to opposition groups who, by vicious propaganda and other reprehensible practices, endeavored to prevent the adoption of constructive amendments to the Act.

"When testifying before the Committee of the House, President Green advised the Congress that if action were not taken by Congress before 1940, it was more than likely that the whole subject would be made a political issue in the 1940 campaign. Only through the adoption of reasonable amendments by the present session of Congress can this be averted.

"Your Committee therefore recommends that the position of the American Federation of Labor remain unchanged and in all respects be reaffirmed; that the officers and Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor be directed to continue its efforts to amend the National Labor Relations Act in accordance with the amendments sponsored by the American Federation of Labor which are now pending before Congress.

"Your Committee further recommends that emphasis be placed on that amendment which provides for the creation of a new Board with a membership of five, and which provides further for a complete overhauling of the present personnel employed by the Board.

"With these recommendations Your Committee moves the adoption of the Executive Council's report."

A. F. of L. Reaffirms Its Demand For Labor Relations Act Changes

(Continued from Page 1)

Board also rendered several precedent making decisions which have had the effect of depriving amendments sponsored by the American Federation of Labor. Likewise several court decisions rendered in the past few months pronounced principles consistent with the amendments of the American Federation of Labor. Thus, great benefits resulted from the presentation of these amendments and the hearings held respecting them.

"The necessity for the amendments, however, is not lessened, because this Board or some future Board may revise the rules now in force. This Board, or some future Board, may render decisions in other cases, reversing the present favorable decisions. Courts, too, may recede from their present position. Further, the amendments are vitally necessary in order to overcome several recent decisions of the Board which seriously jeopardize the interests of the American Federation of Labor; they are also necessary for the improvement in administration of the Act, and for the purpose of removing the existing bias of some of the members of the Board and of its personnel, against the American Federation of Labor and its affiliates.

Unit Rule Must Be Revised By A. F. L. Amendment

"The decision in the American Can Company case rendered July 29, 1939, is pointed out by the dissenting member of the Board:

"'. . . once the industrial union has obtained an exclusive contract on a plant-wide basis, either by organizing before the advent of the craft union or by capturing the craft union's majority in a later election, thereafter the craft employees are irrevocably part of the industrial unit. The effect is, therefore, to crystalize the industrial form of organization and prevent the craft employees from ever thereafter changing their status.'

"This indicates the imperative necessity for the revision of the unit rule in the Act, and is one of the principles of the amendment of the American Federation of Labor respecting the unit rule which is identical with and identical with the New York Act and is based on the principles of the Railway Labor Act.

"In a recent decision—(the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company case), the Board held that the workers in a separate plant of the company, who had been unwillingly opposed to being represented by the C. I. O., were to be represented by the C. I. O. regardless of an existing contract to the contrary. A member of the Board filed a vigorous dissenting opinion and discuses his colleagues of flaunting the basic provisions of the Act in order to fix a result to their own fancy."

"It is apparent from these and other decisions of the Board that the members are suspicious of one another's motives and the accusations contained in these decisions emphasize the urgent necessity for the adoption of the American Federation of Labor Amendments so as to stop this practice of one member of the Board, and to eliminate decisions setting up units to 'suit the fancy of its members' instead of complying with law.

Right of Appeal From Board Decisions Must Be Guaranteed

"Other problems of great consequence still remain which can only be resolved by amending the Act. The Board itself has been denied in cases such as the West Coast Longshoremen's case, the Progressive Mine Workers' cases, where petitions for certification have been dismissed

State Laws Covering Wages, Hours, Industrial Home Work, Child Labor, Probed by A. F. of L.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—A thorough investigation of legislation in the various States covering wages, hours, industrial home work and child labor will be made by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, with instructions to furnish the results of its study to all State federations of labor for their consideration and guidance, according to a decision of the annual convention of the Federation in session here.

Resolutions had before it a report of the A. F. of L. Executive Council which said that despite the progress that had been achieved since the act of 1938, no State wage and hour bills were enacted although this type of legislation was introduced in thirty States.

"Extension of minimum wage," the Council reported, "are to be noted in Alaska, Maine and Connecticut (whose bills, in view of the action taken in Alaska and Hawaii, it is all the more necessary to include Hawaii and the District of Columbia still fall short of this standard."

The Committee considering this report of the Executive Council that the convention ordered that a survey of the entire subject matter be made.

"Coverage of the 8-hour day and 48-hour week laws were extended in Montana and Utah, but on the other hand the principle of one-day-of-rest-in-seven lost ground in New Hampshire and New Mexico.

"South Carolina allowed its recent hours legislation for men, women and minors to be enjoined and declared unconstitutional without enacting anything to replace it; so that now the only remaining hours statute in that state fixes a 12-hour day, 60-hour week for women in mercantile establishments. The hours of minors were reduced in West Virginia and Hawaii.

"Two new industrial home work laws were passed—California and West Virginia—making 19 States with this type of regulation.

"The basic 16-year minimum age was adopted in Alaska, Hawaii, and West Virginia (though in the last-mentioned it is weakened by exemptions). In view of the action taken in Alaska and Hawaii, it is all the more necessary to include Hawaii and the District of Columbia still fall short of this standard."

The Committee considering this report of the Executive Council that the convention ordered that a survey of the entire subject matter be made.

International Seafarers Union Has Steadily Increased Its Paid-Up Membership to 15,000

A. F. of L. Executive Council Visions Brilliant Prospects for New Affiliate.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

An encouraging account of the constructive progress made by the Seafarers International Union of North America was contained in the report of the Executive Council to the American Federation of Labor to the annual convention of the Federation in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Pointing out that "on July 11, 1938, Brother Harry Lundeberg and his associates representing the Sailors Union of the Pacific made formal application to the American Federation of Labor for a charter of affiliation," the Council said that when the application was filed the A. F. of L. was already engaged in organizing seamen on the Atlantic coast, the Great Lakes, and Gulf districts into federal unions following the collapse of the International Seamen's Union, whose charter was revoked by the 1938 A. F. of L. convention.

At the conclusion of conferences between all parties concerned, the Executive Council issued a charter to the Seafarers International Union of North America on October 14, 1938, with substantial progress reported ever since.

"The International Union has been functioning during the past year," the Council said. "It has made substantial progress. It has steadily increased its membership until it has reached a paid-up membership of 15,000.

"The seamen are turning to it as the constructive American Federation of Labor seaman's organization. We are confident that in the course of time the seamen employed on the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Great Lakes, and the Gulf will be united into one strong Seafarers International Union of North America."